



# St. James United Church

Weekly Service Bulletin – June 25th, 2017

*Aboriginal Sunday / 3rd after Pentecost*

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*Living fully, intentionally and compassionately*

*\*Please stand as you are able*

**PRELUDE / WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH / INTROIT**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE** *(responsive)*

One: We light this candle as a symbol of the presence of Jesus,

**All: known to us through the stories we share,  
experienced by us through the gathered community,**

One: and present to us through the Spirit that is in our midst.

Bill Steadman, *Gathering - Pentecost, 2017*

## **WE GATHER**

**\*GATHERING SONG** *Come, O Holy Spirit*

**MV#23**

Words: Fred Kaan, 1972, rev. 1998. Music: Ron Klusmeier, 2000.

Come, O Holy Spirit, set the Church on fire;  
strike it as the lightning hits a posing spire.

Burn away the structures and consume the sham  
of our holy systems: Come, in Jesus' name!

**Come, come, come, in Jesus' name! Take our hearts by storm.**

**All the world lies open: Pentecost is now!**

**Come, come, come, in Jesus' name! Take our hearts by storm.**

**All the world lies open: Pentecost is now!**

**I said a-Pentecost is now!**

Blow away the cobwebs of our stubborn past.

Come, send flying from us myths unfit to last.

Wind of change, refresh us and disturb our calm;

teach us what true love is, take our hearts by storm. **(R)**

Free us from the babble of our Babel mind;

spark in us a language all can understand.

Lighten then our darkness, come and show us how

all the world lies open: Pentecost is now!

**GATHERING WORDS** (responsive)

One: For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.

**All: This day, we gather to share in God's dream of abundant life for all.**

One: We gather to give and receive gifts of deep emotion, deep wisdom, and deep love.

**All: With gratitude we gather as a community to praise God, to seek transformation, and to celebrate the power of the Spirit that is always moving.**

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**OPENING PRAYER** (responsive)

One: Great Comforter,  
we know that we are surrounded by a legacy of pain.

**All: We acknowledge the pain, grief, and sorrow caused by not living respectfully with all people, and we are sorry for the ways that we have dishonoured the depths of this pain.**

One: Open us, Creator, to the power of interconnectedness:  
Help us to receive the painful stories as well as the inspiring stories;  
Grant us the courage to own any feelings of vulnerability, shame, fear, and guilt that may come from our interactions with each other;  
And with your healing grace, lead us through our aching toward your dream of wholeness.

**All: Transform us and our community so that we may continually work toward reconciliation and new life. Amen.**

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**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (spoken)

**VU#921**

**\*HYMN** *Mother Earth, Our Mother Birthing*

**MV#39**

Words: Norman Habel, 1999. Music: Neil Weisensel, 2006.

Mother Earth, our Mother birthing ev'ry creature from the ground.

Jesus too was flesh and breathing, kin to all that's green and brown.

Celebrate with all creation: God has formed the web of life;

Celebrate with all creation God has formed the web of life.

Sister Air, our Sister lifting ev'ry creature born with wings;

Jesus shared the breath of forests, breath that makes our spirits sing.

Celebrate with all creation: God has formed the web of life;

Celebrate with all creation God has formed the web of life.

Brother Water, Brother pulsing deep through ev'ry vein and sea,

Jesus drank the very raindrops for our wine and in our tea.

Celebrate with all creation: God has formed the web of life;

Celebrate with all creation God has formed the web of life.

Father Fire, our Father burning with the sacred urge to live.  
Jesus' death completes the cycle, bringing life beyond the grave.  
Celebrate with all creation: God has formed the web of life;  
Celebrate with all creation God has formed the web of life.

## THEME CONVERSATION

### CHILDREN'S PRAYER

Teach us faith, teach us caring, teach us love, teach us sharing.  
Help us love your whole creation. Make our lives a celebration. Amen.

### WE REFLECT

**MINUTE FOR MISSION VIDEO**    *Seeking Right Relations*

**ANTHEM**    *I the Lord of Sea and Sky*

**SCRIPTURE READING**    Micah 6:6-8

**Karin DesChamp**

#### *What God Requires*

6 'With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings,  
with calves a year old?  
7 Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with tens of thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?'  
8 He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**\*HYMN**    *Amazing Grace*

**VU#266**

**Amazing Grace** has been translated into 4 Indigenous languages, including:  
Cree, Mohawk, Ojibway and Inuktitut.

Words: John Henry Newton 1779. Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831.

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind by now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, this word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise that when we'd first begun.

**REFLECTION**    *The Gift of the Inuksuk* by Mike Ulmer and Illustrated by Melanie Rose

**WE RESPOND**

**OFFERING AND OFFERTORY MUSIC**

**\*SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE**    *What Can I Do?*

**MV#191**

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**WE GO FORTH**

**\*HYMN**                                    *O for a World*

**VU#697**

Words: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987. Music: Car Gotthelf, 1828; arr: Lowell Mason, 1839.

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,  
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,  
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice  
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.  
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,  
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

**\*BLESSING**

**\*SUNG BLESSING**    *Spirit of the Living God*

**VU#376**

Words: v. 1 Daniel Iverson 1926, v. 2 Michael Baughen 1982. Music: Daniel Iverson 1926; arr. Darryl Nixon 1987.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mould me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, move among us all;  
make us one in heart and mind, make us one in love:  
humble, caring, selfless, sharing,  
Spirit of the living God, fill our lives with love!

**POSTLUDE**